

*Our file*  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

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~~SECRET~~**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT****COUNTRY** Germany/Russian Zone**DATE:** 25X1A**SUBJECT** Activities of a Soviet Purchasing  
Agency in Berlin**INFO.** [REDACTED]**DIST.** 25 March 1947**ORIGIN** 25X1A**PAGES****SUPPLEMENT**

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1. A Soviet purchasing agency which buys gold, jewelry, china, paintings, and other valuables from German civilians at very high prices has its headquarters on Falkenbergerstrasse, Berlin-Weissensee. The head of the agency is a Russian jeweller who was once an apprentice at Cartier's in Paris and who calls himself Anatol. This agency, which operates by word of mouth, is now so active it has been described as a well organized dismantling action directed against German civilians.
2. Soviet and German purchasing agents and intermediaries, often operating under assumed French names, throughout the Berlin area buy these high quality items which are then stored, sometimes for long periods of time, in the undamaged buildings of the Askania Werke until they can be adequately wrapped and shipped to the U.S.S.R.
3. The special purchasing agent for paintings is a museum director from Leningrad. He is given large amounts every week by headquarters on Falkenbergerstrasse, with which he buys paintings exclusively.
4. A German named Graf, who lives in the American Zone on Firststrasse, Berlin-Zehlendorf, is the agency's most important German agent. Graf, who works undercover, always has large amounts of RM at his disposal, with which he makes small loans, then buys the pawns, or makes outright purchases which he turns over to the main office in Weissensee. Graf has made millions of RMs of personal profit from this activity.
5. All payments are made in RM and never in occupation marks. About six months ago the agency was paying 85,000 RM for a one carat diamond. It now pays 45,000 RM per carat.

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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 010

NO CHANGE in Class. IT

X DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: 11 APR 1978

By: 028

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Approved For Release 1999/09/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R000400500010-5

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